(c) the details of agency which will supply additional gas for this project?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Project (RGTPP) requires around 1 to 1.2 MMSCMD of gas to operate at full capacity. At present, 0.75 MMSCMD of gas is available and allocated to this project. However, the average gas drawal by the power plant during April-July 2005 has been around 0.56-0.57 MMSCMD.

Supply of gas to the project is made from the fields of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. The entire gas available from these fields, *i.e.,* 0.75 MMSCMD, has been committed for supply to this project. While, no additional gas is available for supply to the project, it may be noted that for reasons best known to them RGTPP are not drawing it full even the present availability.

Additional gas to NE States

2915. SHRIMATI SYEDAANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Myanmar gas pipeline will run through the North-East without touching Bangladesh and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Bangladesh has forwarded any pre-conditions seeking commercial concessions in lieu of allowing the gas pipeline to run through its country;

(c) if so/the details thereof and the cost effect in building pipe line without touching of Bangladesh and through Bangladesh; and

(d) whether North-East Region will get some additional gas to put an end to the gas crisis in the region?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) In January 2005, Minister (P&NG) participated in a trilateral Ministerial meeting between the Oil Ministers of Bangladesh, Myanmar and India. In pursuance of the trilateral Joint Press Statement released after that meeting, a Techno-commercial

Working Committee (TCWC) of the representatives of the three countries was constituted. The first Meeting of the TCWC was held in Yangon on 24-25th February 2005. The TCWC prepared a draft MoU to be signed by the three oil Ministers after the approval of their respective Governments. However, the approval of the MoU has been delayed on account of differences between India and Bangladesh over one preambular paragraph in the draft MoU. Issues relating to the draft MoU continue to be under consideration of the Governments of Bangladesh and India even as India explores with Myanmar other options of importing natural gas into India from Myanmar. An onshore pipeline through North-East Indian territory is one of the options for transportation of natural gas from Myanmar to India. No final decision has been taken as yet and the details of various options are being worked out.

Renovation of petrol retail outlets

2916. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil companies are renovating petrol and diesel retail outlets at company's cost;

(b) if so, the total amount spent in this regard in the last three years by oil companies; and

(c) the justification for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Oil Marketing Companies are undertaking modernization of their retail outlets to improve appearance and to provide appropriate facilities/convenience to the customers with a view to facing competition in the deregulated scenario. The total amount spent on modernization Company-wise for the last three years is as unden-

Rs, *in Crore*

Year	IOCL	BPCL	HPCL	IBP
2002-03	194.49	61.15	98.12	10.70
2003-04	180.45	206.99	162.80	14.12
2004-05	282.55	177.26	202.44	25.24